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you for the way in which you conducted the proceedings of the Select Committee and again I must thank you also for the way in which you were able to help the Members of this House in coming to conclusions with regard to this Bill both in the second reading stage and in the third reading stage. And finally, Sir, though your Secretary is outside the sphere of this House, my thanks are due in no small measure to Rao Bahadur R. V. Krishna Ayyar who, during the proceedings of the Select Committee, did what he could to help us to bring this measure into its proper shape. With these words, Sir, I thank you once again for your kindness and consideration and the Members of the House for their kindness and consideration."

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"I would like to add my thanks and congratulations to those that have already been offered. It has been given to the hon. the Chief Minister to realize a part of the programme he had laid down for himself at the beginning of his career. Sir, I think the hon. Minister recognizes as well as any of us here, that there are many directions in which the Bill might be improved. Yet, I believe, Sir, that what has been so far achieved is a real advance on the old state of affairs. Sir, we are grateful to the Minister for the stand which he took on the question of joint electorates. I am sure that the fears, if any, entertained by my friends here and there on the question of joint electorates will be found baseless when it comes to the actual working of the provisions of the Bill. I am sure that now that the Government have chosen to deprive themselves of the great power of patronage, they would find themselves in a healthier atmosphere to take a wider outlook of local self-government and try to advance it on healthy, vigorous and none the less efficient lines. I congratulate the hon. Minister on having successfully piloted this measure through the Council."

The motion that the Bill be passed into law was put and adopted.

## IV

### DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1929-30.

#### (1) GRANT VI—IRRIGATION—RESERVED.

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 200 under Grant VI—Irrigation—Reserved. This is a grant to carry out certain works in connexion with the Kangalancheri regulator in the Vettar river in the Cauvery delta system. During the floods of last October a scour occurred which undermined the piers and has caused a sinkage in front of the regulator. It is essential that this work should be repaired immediately in order to prevent further and more serious damage. The other item is required in respect of a bridge built in 1874. The steel work of the bridge has become rusted and worn out. The main decking and girders have to be replaced at once with plate girders and rolled steel beams on reinforced concrete decking and we wish to do it at once as it is an important bridge and it is now unsafe."

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

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(2) GRANT VII—CAUVERY-METTUR PROJECT—RESERVED.

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Grant VII—Cauvery-Mettur Project—Reserved. This is to meet the cost of special tools and plant for the Cauvery-Mettur Project. The amount which was anticipated in the revised estimates would be required was 66·75 lakhs. This has been found to be inadequate and further $18\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs was required. A sum of £21,495 is required this year in addition to the allotment made in the budget. It is impossible, when preparing estimates to foresee exactly what tools and plant will be required ; much of the work to be done is then below the ground it is also most undesirable that there should be any delay in execution owing to lack of sufficient tools and plants. As any such delay might lead to serious loss if the date by which the project comes into force is thereby postponed. I beg to move that this grant be made."

*Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I should like to oppose this. The note shows in what careless manner the estimates are prepared by the authorities concerned. The estimates show that instead of 2 lakhs and odd the expenses are found to run to 5 lakhs and odd. That shows as usual that there has been so much of underestimate at the beginning of the year. I am really at a loss to know to what extent this expenditure will rise year after year. It is true that some saving is shown under some head. How has it arisen ? Is it merely temporary curtailment of expenditure ? What I would insist upon is that these authorities should be conscious before they enter into the work that it is Indian money coming from the pockets of the poor. They should be very cautious, careful and prudent. If this principle is borne in mind it will not bring extraordinary expenditure on so many items year after year not to speak of the reckless way in which lakhs and lakhs of money are spent. I do not want to take more time of the Council. With these words I want to sound a note of warning after the experience we have had at Mettur about which we have submitted a report."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think I will be justified in allowing the hon. Member to refer to various other subjects. The hon. Member will have to confine his remarks to tools and plants."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" This is a part of it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will not be justified in referring to the other aspects of the question."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I oppose the motion."

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

(3) GRANT XVI—POLICE—RESERVED.

4-45 p.m. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 10,700 under Grant XVI—Police—Reserved.*

" This is to provide for the additional appropriation to meet increased expenditure on account of His Excellency the Viceroy's visit, etc.

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" Sir, the Commissioner of Police has brought to the notice of Government that a certain additional allotment is required on account of the fact that we incurred some extra expenditure on the visit of His Excellency the Viceroy last year. This fact was not anticipated at the time the budget was presented. Out of Rs. 10,700 that is required, Rs. 6,100 is necessary in connexion with the expenditure incurred for His Excellency the Viceroy's visit, and from the memorandum placed in the hands of hon. Members, it will be seen that there are also other smaller items of expenditure. We asked the Inspector-General of Police whether he could not find this amount out of the savings in his budget. He has replied that most of the savings in his department were absorbed on account of the expenditure that he had to incur in connexion with the arrangement made in the mufassal during the visit of His Excellency the Viceroy. In these circumstances, I have to come to the House for a supplementary demand for Rs. 10,700."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" Sir, I just want to know what was the total expenditure that was required in connexion with the visit of His Excellency the Viceroy, for the whole Presidency. I find in the note circulated, the following :—

'The Inspector-General of Police states that on a preliminary examination of nine months' actuals it is found that such savings as are anticipated in his budget will be required to meet the heavy additional expenditure incurred in the mufassal on account of His Excellency the Viceroy's visit and for various other petty reappropriations . . .'

" So, Sir, we are asked to make a grant of Rs. 10,700. I should like to know what the total expenditure is."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, this motion is in connexion with the arrangements made in the City of Madras. So far as the Inspector-General of Police is concerned, he has not informed the Government till now what expenditure he actually incurred for police arrangements in the mufassal. I think it will be seen from the memorandum in the hands of hon. Members that he is meeting the expenditure from reappropriations."

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

(4) GRANT XXXIII—STATIONERY AND PRINTING—RESERVED.

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 55,300 *under Grant XXXIII—Stationery and Printing—Reserved.*

" Hon. Members will see from the memorandum that has been placed in their hands that the Superintendent of Stationery has brought to the notice of Government that Rs. 50,000 is necessary for the cost of war printing and kraft brown paper ordered in 1928–29 but paid for in 1929–30. We had provided the amount in the last year's budget, and if the papers shipped in February had reached us before the 31st of March last year, we would have paid the money from the budget allotment. But, since the shipment was received only in April of this year, we have now to pay Rs. 50,000. With regard to the cost of paper and other artices ordered in excess of the budget, we had to pay Rs. 35,000. This excess is due to the fact that new offices

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have been created by the Government, and the work of the existing departments of Government have increased to such an extent that more stationery is required, and for that purpose I have to ask this House to vote Rs. 35,000. For cost of overmakes of certain kinds of paper, we require Rs. 13,000. According to the paper trade custom an order is considered to be duly executed if it is written ten per cent above or below the required quantity ordered. Out of the total extra expenditure of Rs. 98,000 asked for by the Superintendent of Stationery, Rs. 42,700 is met by reappropriation. Therefore, I have now to ask this House to vote Rs. 55,300."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Sir, it is somewhat disappointing that hon. Members of the Government, in order to support a motion for an additional grant, should merely repeat what the heads of departments say in support of such demands. . . . The hon. the Home Member categorically said that in one case the Commissioner of Police wanted this amount, and therefore he wanted this House to grant it. In this case, the Superintendent of Stationery wants this amount, and he wants this Council to grant it. That is really a very strange attitude, Sir, for the Government to take. We expect the Government to exercise the strictest control possible over those heads of departments. They know very much better than we do that the heads of departments are always anxious to appropriate as much money as possible from the coffers of the Government. Unless the gentlemen who are at the head of the Government are able to scrutinize and find out the justification for these grants, it is simply impossible for us, sitting on this side of the House, to get these demands rejected. The reasons why these additional grants are asked for seem to be based on very untenable grounds. Surely, the officer who is in charge of a department ought to know when a shipment of a consignment ordered for would arrive, and he should certainly have taken precautions to include it in the original budget. In the case of this particular order for paper, which arrived later than the 31st March, surely the head of the department ought to know that if he would not receive it in March the shipment would arrive at least later and that he had to pay money for it. I wonder how this head of the department has neglected to note that.

" Again, with regard to the argument that it is a trade custom that 10 per cent margin either within or over the contracted quantity should be accepted, I suppose, Sir, the trade custom is this : that in case an order is made for 10 per cent more than the contracted quantity, the contractor has to supply it and cannot say ' no ', and also that if the head of the department did not want a quantity within 10 per cent below the contracted quantity, then the contractor has no claim against the Government in compelling it to take the full quantity of the contract. That is the trade custom, and not that the Government is obliged to take the excessive quantity that is offered by the contractor. I am afraid the custom is somewhat inaccurately put. I would have very much liked that the Government had examined this aspect of the question. What is more surprising than this is how the Finance Department, which is usually very exacting in compliance of their conditions in all meticulous details, has allowed the head of this particular department to commit these irregularities. Probably, if that were a transferred subject, the Finance Department would have exercised more rigorous control, and in the case of the Reserved departments they show some partiality to these

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heads of departments. Whatever that may be, these are items which could have easily been anticipated at the time of the budget, and the heads of departments could have easily included them in the budget. It looks as though their asking for demands for these additional grants is only to make the Council believe that at the time of the budget they are within a particular amount, and then to get over the difficulty come to this Council by asking for supplementary demands like this."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Member for Madras said that when we receive any proposal from the head of the department, we immediately come to the Legislative Council. I may assure the House that it is not the case when additional funds are required, the Secretariat concerned examines the question very carefully, and then it is further subjected to the examination of the Finance Department. I may at once say that the Finance Department makes absolutely no distinction between the Transferred and Reserved halves of the Government. Whether the department is Reserved or Transferred the Finance Department advances criticisms which it thinks are relevant and pertinent to the question. Therefore, I can safely say that it is not the case that the Finance Department is partial in regard to a Reserved subject.

"Coming to the items referred to by the hon. Member from Madras, I have already pointed out, a sum of Rs. 50,000 was already provided in the last year's budget, and on account of the fact that the shipment arrived late, this item had to be met now. The Superintendent of Stationery could not possibly anticipate that the shipment would be delayed in the circumstances mentioned in the note.

"As for Rs. 35,000 for cost of paper, it is simply due to the fact that the increased activities of the various Government departments naturally require more stationery.

"As for the other Rs. 13,000, my hon. Friend raised a pertinent question. I did go into it very carefully, and have found that the position stated by the Superintendent of Stationery is correct. In these circumstances, I request the House to vote the grant."

* Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA:—"In connexion with item No. 2, viz., the extra cost of paper, the hon. Member for Madras did not say anything, but the hon. the Home Member took occasion to explain how this extra amount of Rs. 35,000 was required for paper and other articles of stationery. The reason why this large amount is asked for is that there has been a great deal of expansion of work by the creation of new offices. I just wonder whether the Government is unaware of the opening of new offices and the increase of work in other departments, when they prepare the budget for the year. One could understand a small amount being incurred extra on paper and things like that. But here, Sir, Rs. 35,000, a very large sum indeed, especially when it is spent for paper and other stationery articles, is being asked. I wonder how big the increase in offices itself is. Sir, this could not possibly be allowed."

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

(5) GRANT XXXV—AGENCY TRACTS—RESERVED.

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Grant XXXV—Agency Tracts—Reserved.*

" This House will remember that the Russellkonda Saw Mill which was one of the enterprises of the Forest department, was recently closed down, and as it was considered a commercial concern, it has had to be wound up as if it were a commercial undertaking. Enquiries were, therefore, made in various departments of Government as to whether they could find a use for the buildings and furniture at Russellkonda. The result of the enquiry was a report that they will be useful for the new Public Works Department Division which has been opened at Russellkonda for the development of the Ganjam Agency. In order to put the matter on a proper footing, it is necessary to transfer Rs. 1,19,535 from the Public Works Department to the credit of the Forest department. For this reason, I beg to move that this grant be made."

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

## V

## NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

### A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS PROPRIETARY ESTATES' VILLAGE SERVICE ACT, 1894, AND THE MADRAS HEREDITARY VILLAGE OFFICES ACT, 1895, (BILL NO. 4 OF 1930).

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I beg to present the report [a] of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Madras Proprietary Estates' Village Service Act, 1894, and the Madras Hereditary Village Offices Act, 1895, and move that the Bill as amended by the Select Committee be taken into consideration."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" I second it."

5 p.m. The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the Bill to amend the Madras Proprietary Estates' Village Service Act, 1894, and the Madras Hereditary Village Offices Act, 1895 (Bill No. 4 of 1930), be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted and the Bill was taken into consideration.

*Clauses 1 to 3 and preamble.*

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 and the preamble were then put, passed and added to the Bill.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I beg to move that the Bill be passed into law and, in doing so, I wish only to express my grateful thanks to the Government and the party leaders of the various sections of the House for the facilities they gave me for bringing the Bill to the stage it has now reached."

The motion was duly seconded.

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[a] Printed as Appendix XIV at pages 158-160 infra.